

# BARRINGTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

212 West Main Street • Barrington, Illinois 60010 • (847) 381-1730

*Lighting the way from the past to the future.*

November 13, 2007

ET-3355

Ms. Victoria J. Rutson  
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

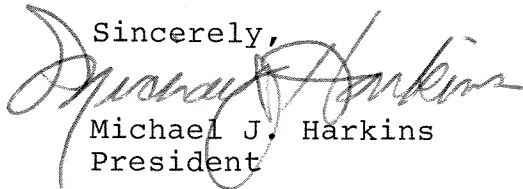
Dear Ms. Rutson:

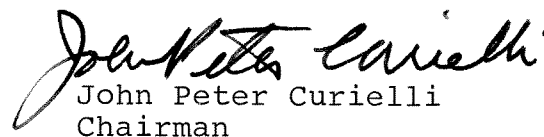
We understand that Canadian National Railway Company plans to buy the Elgin, Joliet, & Eastern Railway Company. We have been informed that, as a result of this transaction, at least 15 new freight trains will travel through the Barrington, Illinois area each day. According to some, the increase will be much larger than that, and the final number is completely unpredictable. Such an increase will require a great deal of examination to assure that traffic, noise, and safety concerns of our organization are met.

Our mission is to keep local and community history alive through preservation and education. Increase train traffic in Barrington will impede our efforts to collect, preserve, and educate our adults and children. Our grounds and facilities are very close to these train tracks. Our walking and house tours will be adversely impacted.

From our experience as leaders in historic preservation and community history, we understand that the federal government must consider all significant environmental impacts of its decisions, and issue a statement with alternatives and conditions before proceeding. We are certain that an extra 15 trains, each taking somewhere around five minutes to pass through the area, constitutes a significant impact on this region. We assume, therefore, that you will issue such a statement, which will give us and others an opportunity to review the true environmental impacts of this transaction. We look forward to working with you and the rest of the Board in this process. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Michael J. Harkins  
President

  
John Peter Curielli  
Chairman

